



1985

## Founders' Day Convocation (1985 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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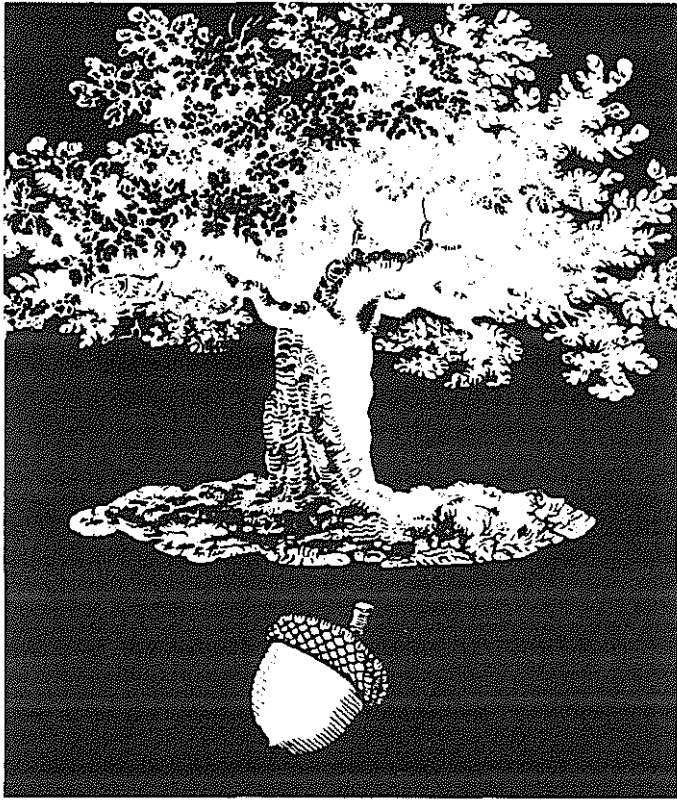
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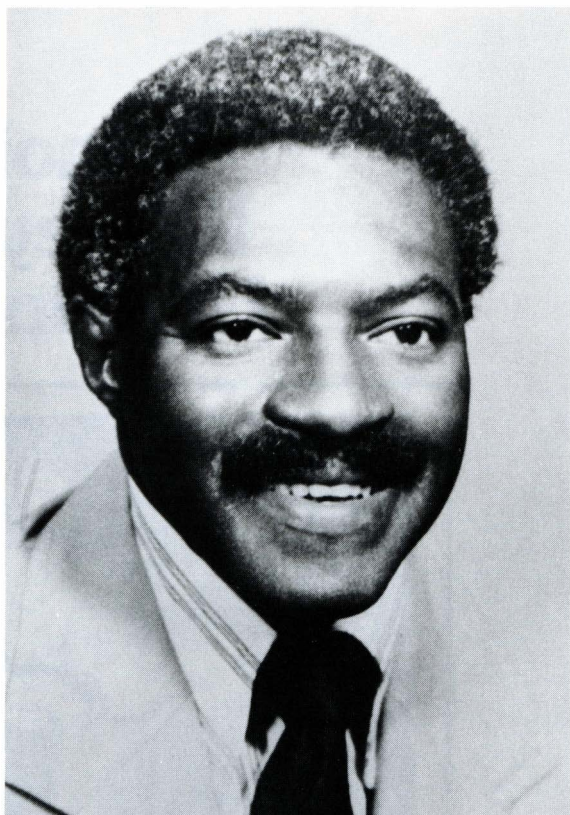
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**Illinois  
Wesleyan  
University**



**Founders Day**  
**February 20, 1985**



**DR. WOODIE  
W. WHITE**  
**Bishop, Illinois Area  
United Methodist Church**

Dr. White was graduated from Paine College in Augusta, Ga., and Boston University School of Theology. A native New Yorker, he was ordained an elder at the 1963 Detroit Conference and subsequently served pastorates in Worcester, Mass., and in Detroit, where he later was appointed Urban Minister for a metropolitan church.

He rapidly gained prominence in the Church, becoming the first General Secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race of the United Methodist Church in 1969, a promotion that led to his election to the episcopacy in July 1984.

He has lectured at Wesley Theological Seminary and Howard University School of Religion, both in Washington, D.C., and co-authored a book, *Racial Transition in the Church*, published by Abingdon Press in 1980. Dr. White was also elected a delegate to General Conferences in 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1984.

Early in his ministry, he was awarded honorary doctoral degrees by Adrian College in Adrian, Mich., and Rust College, Holly Springs, Miss. Later, he received the Distinguished Service Award from Boston University, the Urban Award from the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, the Distinguished Service Award given by the United Committee on Negro History, and the Brotherhood Award.

Bishop White and his wife, Kim, are the parents of four daughters, Kimberly, Hope, Valeria and Sharon. The family lives in Springfield.

# ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

## CONVOCATION

### HONORING THE FOUNDERS

Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall  
February 20, 1985                      11:00 a.m.  
President Robert S. Eckley, *Presiding*  
Professor Henry Charles, *Mace Bearer*

ORGAN PRELUDE .....Professor David Gehrenbeck, Organist

Prelude and Fugue in F minor ..... *George Frideric Handel*  
(b. Feb. 23, 1685)

Two Chorale Preludes .....*Johann Sebastian Bach*  
(b. Mar. 21, 1685)

“O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig” (BWV 618)  
 (“O Lamb of God, most Stainless”)

“Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott” (BWV 651)  
 (“Come, Holy Ghost, Lord God”)

#### PROCESSIONAL

Alla Breve in G ..... *George Frideric Handel*

INVOCATION ..... Chaplain William L. White

MOTET “Der Geist hilft unsrer Schwachheit auf” (BWV 226) ..*Johann Sebastian Bach*

The Collegiate Choir  
Melinda Creasy, *Harpichord*  
Professor David Nott, *Conductor*

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER ..... President Robert S. Eckley

ADDRESS “Our Common Ground” ..... Bishop Woodie W. White

#### AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE

#### ALMA WESLEYANA

From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee  
Where'er we wander, over land or sea;  
Through time unending loyal we will be—  
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.

When college days are fully past and gone,  
While life endures, from twilight dream till dawn  
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on—  
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan!

#### ORGAN POSTLUDE

Concerto IV: Allegro ..... *George Frideric Handel*

DER GEIST HILFT UNSRER SCHWACHHEIT AUF: Translation

The Spirit helps our weakness,  
for we do not know how we should pray,  
how it is proper; but the Spirit itself  
intercedes for us in the best possible way with  
unutterable sighs.

He, however, who searches our hearts knows  
what the Spirit's meaning is, for He intercedes for  
the saints, according to God's will.

O holy Ardour, sweet Comfort,  
now help us to remain,  
happy and comforted, steadfastly in Your service,  
affliction not driving us from You.

O Lord, by your power prepare us,  
and strengthen our flesh's timidity,  
that we here strive valiantly  
to make our way through death and life to You.  
Hallelujah!

Romans 8, 26, 27; Martin Luthe